Surgery in Concepcion, Chile

Sara Hammer, OMS-III
Chile- fun facts

One of the longest coastlines in the world

The Atacama desert is the driest place on earth

Population is 18 million - Concepcion‘s population is 220,000

Medical training in Chile is based on the European model - 7 year programs directly from high school. 3 years classroom, 2 years combined classroom and hospitals, and the last two years are almost exclusively clinical with some weekly didactics. The final year of medical school is the ‘intern year’
Concepcion, Chile
International Rotation in Concepcion

Hospital Las Higueras, Talcahuano

Dr. Nelson Canovas-Vera

- Family Friend with Canovas Family
- Decided to reach out!
Surgery

- 4 weeks - last week was national holiday
- Working with interns at hospital higuera
- Commute to hospital with Dr. Canovas
- Rounding with the team
- Scrubbing into surgeries
- ER shifts
The team

- Worked closely with the interns
- Attended their didactic sessions at the hospital and at their university (University of Concepcion)
Surgeries

Colorectal surgery with Dr. Canovas

Cardiac Surgery

Cholecystectomies

Trauma Surgery

Breast Surgery
Why set up an International Rotation?

- Make the most out of your medical education
- Learn how medicine is practiced in another country
- Make international connections
- Push yourself outside of your comfort zone
Thank you!

shammer95@midwestern.edu

Feel free to contact me!